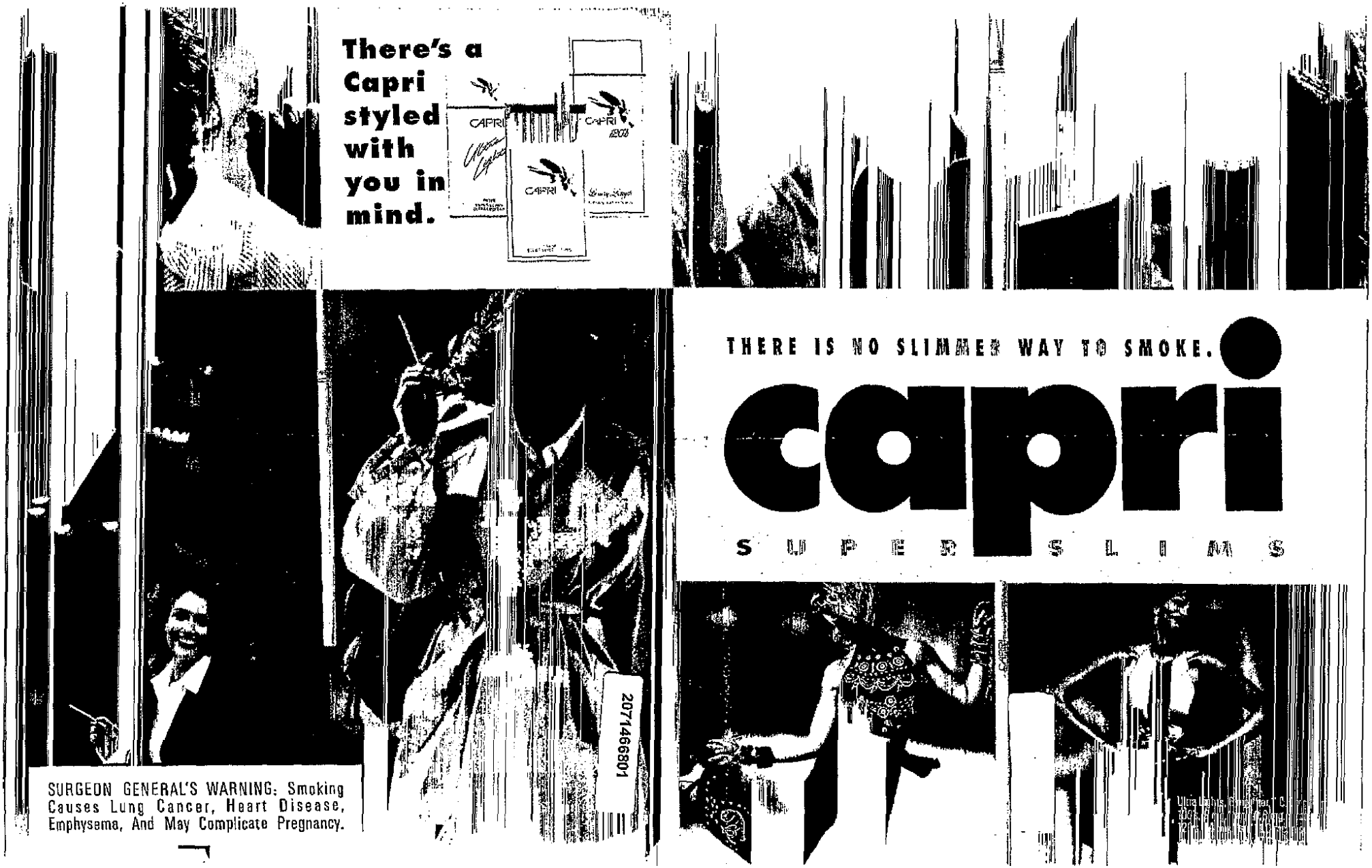

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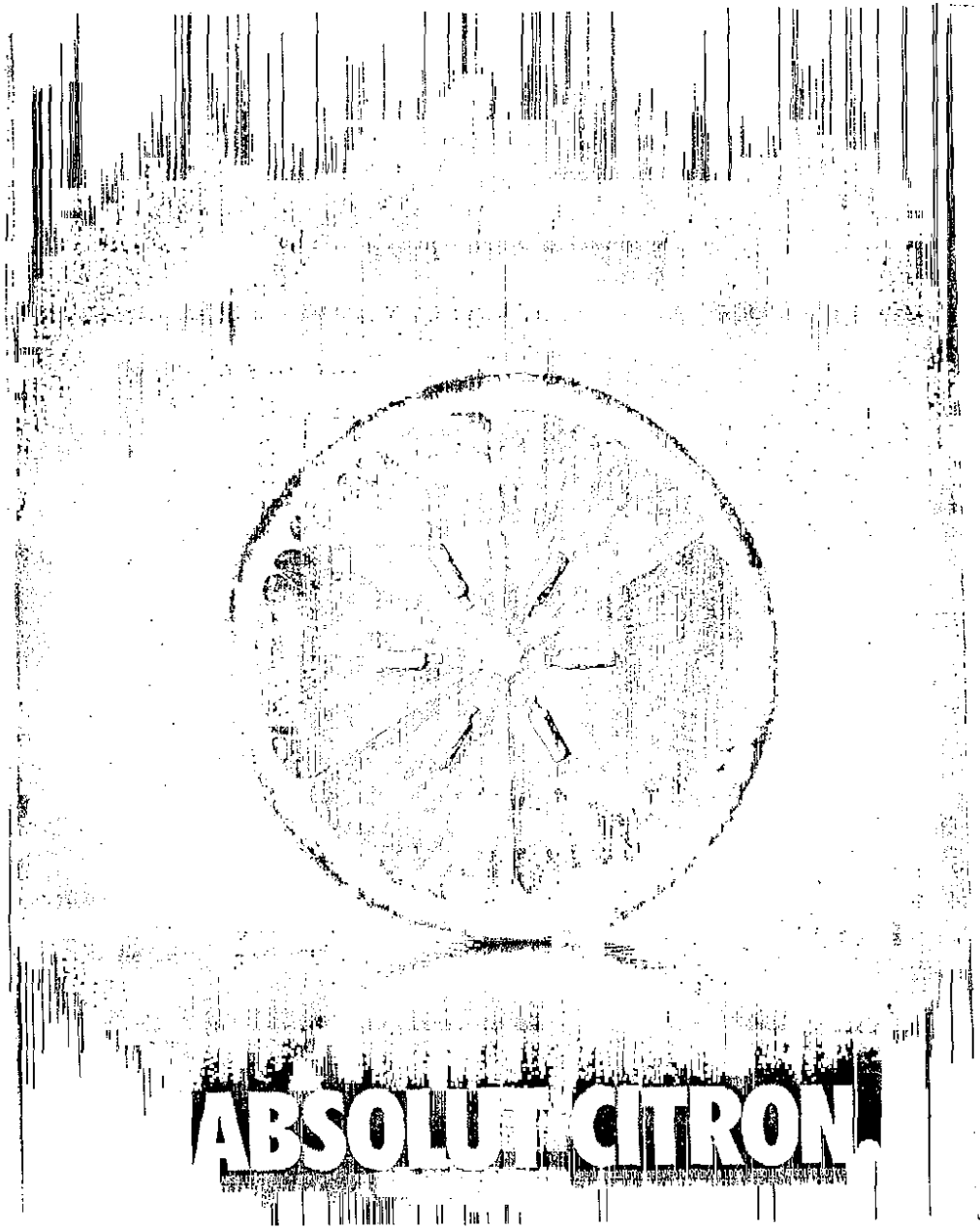


sharks—and to follow her trail with his private eye. This movie is guaranteed to *noir* you to death.

"L'ENTER"-NO: *Things heat up between Béart and Cluzet.*

L'ENFER

Players: Emmanuelle Béart and François Cluzet; written by Henri-Georges Clouzot; directed by Claude Chabrol (MK2)

COVERAGE: *L'enfer* means "hell," and that's exactly what Cluzet, who has a beautiful wife, a wonderful son, and a successful hotel business, turns his and his family's life into when he gets it in his head that he's being cuckolded.

LOW DOWN DIRTY SHAME

Players: Keenan Ivory Wayans, Charles Dutton, and Jada Pinkett; written and directed by Wayans (Hollywood Pictures)

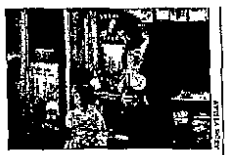
COVERAGE: Wayans is a down-and-out private investigator hired by a friend to find a woman in a witness protection program. The gig is a setup of course; the so-called friend is working for a nasty drug heavy whom the woman ripped off (and raited on), and the bad guy wants her found.

Miracle on 34th Street

THE "MIRACLE" worker: Attenborough with Mara Wilson.

Players: Elizabeth Perkins, Richard Attenborough, Dylan McDermott, and Mara Wilson; written by John Hughes; directed by Les Mayfield (Fox)

A REMAKE OF THE 1947 classic. A young child has her doubts about Santa, so Mr. Claus takes t stand. Attenborough admits that it's a major responsibility to play Santa Claus. "Particularly if you've got five grandchildren, mind you," says the Oscar winner. "You're not Batman, but the thought that Grandj actually played Santa Claus has helped. I think my [illegible] home will perhaps be a little more exciting."



FATHER "CLAUSE": *Tim Allen woos Eric Lloyd.*

MARY SHELLEY'S FRANKENSTEIN

Players: Kenneth Branagh, Helena Bonham Carter, and Robert De Niro; written by Steph Lady and Frank Darabont, from Shelley's novel; directed by Branagh (TriStar)

COVERAGE: In a story about the worst case of separation anxiety ever, Branagh is Victor Frankenstein; De Niro is the man of his dreams.

THE PAGEMASTER

Players: Macaulay Culkin and Christopher Lloyd, and the voices of Whoopi Goldberg, Patrick Stewart, and Leonard Nimoy; written by David Kirschner, David Casci, and Ernie Contreras; directed by Joe Johnston and Maurice Hunt (Fox)

COVERAGE: In this mix of live action and animation, the Pagemaster—the ultimate librarian—introduces Culkin to the world of books. They become his ticket to an animated journey that takes him to the outer limits of his own imagination.

THE SANTA CLAUSE

Players: Tim Allen, Judge Reinhold, and Peter Boyle; written by Steve Rudnick, Leo Benvenuti, and Jonet Brownell; directed by John Pasquin (Hollywood Pictures)

COVERAGE: It's Christmas, and Allen is a divorced dad trying to stay close to his newly stepfathered son. When Santa Claus suffers an occupational injury (he falls off a roof), Allen takes over, with the boy as his helper.

STAR TREK: GENERATIONS

Players: Patrick Stewart, William Shatner, and Malcolm McDowell; written by Ronald D. Moore and Brannon Braga; directed by David Carson (Paramount)

COVERAGE: In a Generation X–travaganza, past and future captains of the *Enterprise* finally meet in the 24th century.

THE SWAN PRINCESS

Players: The voices of John Cleese, Jack Palance, Steven Wright, Michelle Nicastro, Howard McGillin, and Sandy Duncan; written by Rick Rick and Brian Nissen; directed by Rich (New Line)

COVERAGE: Just before she is to marry her prince, the young princess Odette is turned into a swan. Held captive by the evil Rothbart, Odette becomes her human self each night when she swims in Swan Lake, where the prince finally finds her. (Funny about that *Lion King* rerelease this month. . . .)

COURT OF "DREAMS": *Arthur Agee takes it to the hoop.*

THE WAR

Players: Kevin Costner, Elijah Wood, Mare Winningham, and Lexi Randall; written by Kathy McWatter; directed by Jon Avnet (Universal)

COVERAGE: A children's war over a tree house becomes the testing ground for some heavy-duty family values handed down by Costner. Watch out for flying green tomatoes as artillery.

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